(3) A factory should be established in a convenient place for the preparation of tincture cardamom and other valuable products out of cardamom, which would fetch very good prices in foreign markets.

(4) Lands fit for cardamom cultivation should be registered subject to a very low rate of *tharavila*.

(5) Means of communication in the cardamom-growing areas should be improved.

(6) Vaidyasalas should be established for the benefit of the cardamom ryots and the coolies employed by them.

(7) Post offices should be opened at the important Thavalams.

(8) All the concessions granted to the cardamom ryots of the State should be extended to those who had come from outside Travancore.

(9) Export duty should be levied on cardamoms.

Dewan's reply.—Noted.

56. Certain suggestions for the improvement of agriculture and industries and the need for additional Government help and supervision in that direction.

Mr. P. Madhavan Vaidyan (Member, Nominated) first thanked the Government for nominating an Ezhava as a member of the Legislative Council. He then described the state of economic helplessness the country had been driven to on account of the war and added that too much care and attention could not be devoted to the improvement of agriculture. The people were suffering a good deal. The Agricultural Department was no doubt doing its level best to introduce improved and scientific methods of cultivation, but the results could not be expected to manifest themselves so soon. The expansion of the department with larger funds placed to its credit was highly necessary, so as to enable it to fulfil its duties to the ryot. The important and urgent duty to be attended to was the increased output of paddy to meet the growing demand. According to the estimate of Dr. Kunjan Pillai, the Director of Agriculture, an additional area of 1,64,000 acres of land was needed to produce within the State the whole paddy required for consumption. It was impracticable to secure such a large additional tract of land for paddy cultivation. The only course to be followed was intensive cultivation. Dr. Kunjan Pillai's hope was that the two lakhs of acres of *punja* lands could be cultivated annually. The Member expressed an earnest hope that, with the aid of Government, the department would be in a position to realise the end the Director had in view. Similar endeavours should be made to improve *cherikkal* cultivation also. The people appreciated the land concessions granted in G. O. $\frac{230}{430}$ L. R., dated the 8th February 1920, but what was needed more urgently was that the lands applied for and registered should be actually handed over to the registry-holders promptly and in time to put them under the plough. There were several grievances of the people in the matter of *puduval* registry and the only remedy was to appoint a special officer of the status of a Dewan Peishkar to attend to *puduval* work. It was highly desirable that the *tharavila* should be reduced on lands for paddy cultivation and that all reasonable facilities should be given for the production of such articles of staple food as tapioca. People were incurring considerable loss both on account of excess as well as scarcity of water for cultivation purposes. To save them from such losses all irrigational conveniences should be granted. Agricultural loans should be given promptly. All encouragement should be given to manufacture such articles as sugar, molasses, &c., for the use of the people. The Member *inter alia* urged that permission should be granted to manufacture without restriction sweet toddy. The hardships of the people in regard to apparel were so great that Government should make arrangements for getting down yarn from the cotton districts of British India. In conclusion, the Member prayed for early action being taken to promote agriculture and trade.

Dewan's reply.—Noted.

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